(c) Colliery-wise list of exporters is not maintained.

(d) to (f) General measures to boost export include directions to banks to incrase availability of credit to export sectors; reduction in interest rate on rupee-credit; reduction in tariff level on import of machinery and rendering of marketing assistance by Indian Missions. No special incentives are extended to exporters of coal.

विदेशी कार्गो विमान सेवा पर निर्भर भारतीय निर्यातक

785. **श्री गोविन्दराव आदिक :** क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बहुत से भारतीय निर्यातकों को विदेशी कार्गो विमान सेवा पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि कई निर्यातकों को कार्गो की सुपुर्दगी समय पर न होने के कारण करोड़ों रुपए का घाटा उठाना पड़ता है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए भारतीय निर्यातकों को कोई कार्गो विमान उपलब्ध कराने के बारे में सोच रही है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) : (क) जी, हां । तथापि, एयर इंडिया भी अपनी वायु कार्गो क्षमता बढ़ाती रही है ।

(ख) ऐसे कुछ अवसर रहे हैं जब विदेशी क्रेताओं ने माल को समय पर डिलीवरी न होने के कारण भुगतान करने से इन्कार किया है ।

(ग) से (ङ) वायु कार्गो क्षमता बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने एक ओपन स्काई पालिसी शुरू की है जिसके तहत अनुसूचित तथा गैर-अनुसूचित प्रचालन स्वतंत्र रूप से माल वहन कर सकेंगे जिससे निर्यात के लिए कार्गो क्षमता में वृद्धि होगी ।

Frauds over VBAL

786. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have rejected the demand of the Finance Ministry to tighten the export scheme and to plug the leakages and other frauds that are taking place in the controversial Value Based Advance Licence (VBAL) Scheme as has been brought out in the news item Captioned "FM losses battle over VBAL to Commerce Ministry" appearing in the 'Indian Express' of 25th May, 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons for rejecting the demand of the Finance Ministry; and

(c) the number of complaints that have been received so far about the misuse of the provisions of the scheme of VBAL and the action taken on each of the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to go into all the aspects of Value Based advance Licening (VBAL) Scheme and suggest measures that are necessary for plugging the loopholes. The terms of reference of the Committee were as follows:

(a) to determine how the VBAL Scheme has operated in the past;

(b) the areas and extent of abuse/misuse and the loopholes in the Scheme;

(c) remedial measures; and

(d) The final shape of the Scheme which should be incorporated in the revised Policy effective from 1.4.1994.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee after extensive discussions|inter-action with the Trade, their Associations, Manufacturers etc. reached the conclusion that the Scheme was an important instrument for export promotion and as such is needed to continue. However, to plug the loopholes the Committee recommended measures like issue of licences above 25 lakhs to a new exporter|firm after proper verification generic entries in the input-output norms to be tightened, and the licensing Authorities to exercise more care and caution while granting licences. These recommendations have been incorporated in the EXIM Policy|Procedures (Chapter-VII) 1992—97 and Hand Book of Procedure Vol. II as amended upto 31.3.94, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) As stated above, the Inter-Ministerial Committee, was constituted on receipt of representations about the misuse of the VABAL Scheme as well as representations received from Manufacturers, Exporters and other Associations. As per records available, 25 representations from various Manufacturers|Associations were received pointing out loopholes of the Scheme and also giving suggestions for making the Scheme more effective. These representations were duly considered by the Inter-Ministerial Committee while framing its report|recommendations to the Government.

Increase in price of Coffee

787. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coffee dealers have recently taken a decision to increase the domestic prices of coffee by Rs. 20 per kg; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government and steps taken to ensure that the consumers are not put to any inconvenience in regard to the demand of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

The Government is not aware of any such decision taken by the coffee dealers.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Gain in exports after GATT

788. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is likely to gain in exports as a result of GATT;

(b) if so, what is the estimated increase in exports; and

(c) what are the products in which such gains will be there?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Estimates have been made by the World Bank, OECD and the GATT Secretariat, which show that income effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round package would add between US $ 213 and US $ 274 billion annually to the world income. The GATT Secretariat's estimate of the overall trade impact is that the level of merchandise trade in goods would be higher by US $ 745 billion in the year 2005 than it otherwise would have been.

As per the GATT study, the present gains would be in the area of clothing, agriculture, forestry, and fishery products, processed foods and beverages. These are areas of India's